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Message Text

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43
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11 COME-00 AID-20 TRSE-00 AGR-20

CIEP-02 OPIC-12 XMB-07 DRC-01 (ISO) W
---------- 040919
R 180830Z JUL 74
FM AMCONSUL LUANDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2778
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRN ELAB AO
SUBJECT: LUANDA PORT SITUATION

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

1. WITH STEVEDORES CONTINUING REFUSAL WORK BEYOND 1730 WEEKDAYS AND NOON SATURDAYS, TURN-AROUND TIMES IN PORT OF LUANDA HAVE DOUBLED. PRESENTLY THERE ARE 11 VESSELS ALONGSIDE AND 12 AT ANCHOR AWAITING A BERTH.

2. STEVEDORES SAY THEY ARE UNWILLING WORK NIGHTS DUE MUGGINGS ON WAY HOME AFTER DARK. INABILITY OR UNWILLINGNESS TACKLE THIS PROBLEM STARTS WITH PORT ADMINISTRATION AND EXTENDS TO GOVGEN. IN FRUSTRATING SERIES OF MEETINGS WITH PORT CAPTAIN LOCAL
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SHIPPING AGENTS HAVE SUGGESTED INTER ALIA PORT ORGANIZE SECURE

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BUS TRANSPORT FOR WORKERS USING SUFFICIENT NUMBER CITY BUSES WHICH ARE IDLE DURING EVENINGS. IN SPITE OF "FIRM" PERSONAL PROMISE FROM GOVGEN 10 DAYS AGO NOTHING HAS BEEN DONE EXCEPT TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS WITH BUS COMPANY.

3. ONLY CARGO PRESENTLY RECEIVING PRIORITY (BUT NO OVERTIME WORK) IS CEMENT BOUND FOR GABON, NIGERIA AND ZAIRE (BUT CEMENT COMPANY HAS EIGHT SHIPS WAITING FOR BERTHS). ALTHOUGH COFFEE IS NOT NOW ON PRIORITY LIST, COFFEE INSTITUTE AND EXPORTERS ARE PLANNING JOINT APPROACH TO GOVGEN. (THEIR WORRY RE COFFEE IS DANGER OF WAREHOUSES BEING BURNED IF SITUATION DETERIORATES.)

4. PORT OF LOBITO CONTINUES EXPERIENCE CHRONIC DELAYS WITH PROBLEM SOON TO BE EXACERBATED BY INCREASED OFF-LOADING OF LUANDA CARGO THERE. PORT OF MOCAMEDES STILL WORKING WITH PRE-COUP NORMALCY.

5. NORTHERN EUROPEAN AND JAPAN-BASED CONFERENCES HAVE IMPOSED 15-20 PERCENT "CONGESTION" SURCHARGE. AMERICA-WEST-AFRICA CONFERENCE HAS NOT YET FOLLOWED SUIT. GOVERNMENT HERE HAS NOT RETALIATED IN PRE-COUP MANNER AGINST SHIPPERS IMPOSING SURCHARGES.

6 FOR CINCLANT: NO FIRM INDICATION YET THAT EITHER PORT PROBLEM OR GENERAL SITUATION HERE WILL PRECLUDE LUANDA PORT VISIT BY USS PAUL/MULLINIX SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 10-12. HOWEVER SUGGEST YOU CONSIDER AVAILABLE ALTERNATIVES INCLUDING POSSIBILITY OF USING MOCAMEDES. PROBLEM WITH MOCAMEDES HOWEVER IS LOW PROBABILITY POST COULD SEND AMERICAN OFFICER THERE TO ASSIST.

7. COMMENT: PORT PROBLEM ONLY A DANGER TO COFFEE EXPORTS, REMAINING TWO BIG FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNERS - CRUDE OIL AND DIAMONDS - NOT AFFECTED. ON BALANCE PORT PROBLEMS VEXING BUT CERTAINLY LESS DANGEROUS TO ECONOMY THAN GENERALLY DETERIORATING SECURITY SITUATION.
BRIGGS

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 18 JUL 1974
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Document Unique ID: 00
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Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740193-1166
From: LUANDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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